Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 PM-04 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 6649

- 1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CAPTAIN (NAVY) VICTOR HUGO GARCES ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 14 THAT THE SUPREME GOVERNING COUNCIL HAD DECIDED TO NAME BRIGADIER GENERAL (ARMY) FERNANDO DOBRONSKY OJEDA AS MINISTER OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND SPORTS TO REPLACE CAPTAIN (NAVY) ANIBAL CARILLO, WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO COMMAND THE ECUADOREAN NAVY TRAINING SHIP NEARING COMPLETION IN SPAIN.
- 2. PRIOR TO BEING NAMED MINISTER OF EDUCATION. DOBRONSKY HAD SERVED SINCE EARLY 1976 AS ECUADOREAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD IN WASHINGTON. BEFORE THIS HE SPENT A SHORT TIME AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY, AND HE WAS MILITARY GOVERNOR OF AZUAY (CUENCA) PROVINCE AND CONCURRENTLY COMMANDER OF THE THIRD MILITARY ZONE (1974-75). HIS ONLY PREVIOUS CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION WAS AS DIRECTOR OF THE ECUADOREAN SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE (1972-74). DOBRONSKY, AN ARTILLERY OFFICER, HAS ATTENDED SEVERAL US ARMY COURSES, INCLUDING THE COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE. HE HAS A VERY FAVORABLE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL REPU-TATION, AND HE IS CONSIDERED COMPETENT BUT NOT BRILLIANT INTELLECTUALLY. HE WAS ONCE MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE PLOTTER AGAINST FORMER PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA, BUT WE BELIEVE HE WAS GENERALLY A STRONG SUPPORTER OF RODRIGUEZ LARA. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. EMBASSY COMMENT: A CHANGE IN COMMAND AT THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAD BEEN RUMORED HERE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. CARILLO WAS WIDELY REGARDED AS A POOR ADMINISTRATOR, AND HOPEFULLY DOBRONSKY'S APPOINTMENT WILL AUGUR WELL FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE MINISTRY'S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. END COMMENT BLOOMFIELD

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